

# connaissance **des arts**

# de Staël

## and the Trash-ic at the Saatchi Gallery

DOM/GR/ITA/NL/PORT: 9,50 € BEL/LUX: 9,20 € ESP: 9,70 € CH: 15 FS CAN: CAN\$ 12,25 GB: £7,80

connaissance **des arts**

MAY 2018



The Rockefeller  
collection  
for sale

Monet via  
Pollock  
and Debré

Tour of  
Renaissance  
Toulouse

50 years  
since  
**may**  
**'68**

★★★ unmissable  
★★ great  
★ good



## MOUNA REBEIZ: BETWEEN TRASH AND BEAUTY

31  
May

03  
June

In her new series of paintings, the French-Lebanese artist Mouna Rebeiz (*Connaissance des Arts* n° 756, pp. 96-97) highlights the perversion of beauty through the “trash” that surrounds us. Classically trained by a specialist in 18<sup>th</sup> century painting, she has retained the age-old technique of using an ochre-red canvas, on which she paints elegant compositions with a steady hand. Evoking Raphael, Goya and Courbet, she then transforms the faces and silhouettes of their subjects with graffiti tags and contemporary references. Along the way, she also has a dig at the idiosyncrasies of international stars such as Jeff Koons, Damien Hirst and Tracey Emin, proponents of facile pornography, outrageous narcissism and vulgarity. Rebeiz hits where it hurts, and with panache, forcing us to think about our own lives, in the shackles of Instagram and McDonald’s. **G. B.**

★★★ “MOUNA REBEIZ. LE TRASH-IC”, Saatchi Gallery, London, +44 (0)20 7811 3070, [www.saatchigallery.com](http://www.saatchigallery.com)

**Above** Mouna Rebeiz, *Negation*, 2008-2015, oil and aerosol on canvas, 198 x 142 cm  
LONDON, SAATCHI GALLERY. ©M. REBEIZ.

**Top right** Azzedine Alaïa, dress from the exhibition “Couture/ sculpture” at the Galleria Borghese, Rome, 2015  
©ILVIO GALLO.

**Below** Lucian Freud, *Girl with a White Dog*, 1950-1951, o/c, 76.2 x 101.6 cm  
©LONDON, TATE.



## KING AZZEDINE IN LONDON

10 May-7 October

After Olivier Saillard’s tribute in Paris, it is the turn of London’s Design Museum, a prestigious venue recently overhauled by John Pawson, to pay homage to Azzedine Alaïa. This retrospective was designed before his death by “The Couturier” himself, a man who refused to kowtow to catwalks, a *bon vivant* known for his dinner parties, a sculptor who designed his dresses against models’ bodies, an outsider who showcased the female body. Between 1980 and 2017, he was worshipped by the world’s most beautiful women for his famous black or bright red zipped dresses, whether futurist or classical. **E. V.**

★★★ “AZZEDINE ALAÏA: THE COUTURIER”, The Design Museum, London, +44 (0)20 3862 5900, [www.designmuseum.org](http://www.designmuseum.org)



## HUMAN, TOO HUMAN

28 February-27 August

During the 1950s, a group of painter friends in London, led by Francis Bacon and Lucian Freud, defied the diktats of abstraction, Minimal Art and even Pop Art to reinvent realist figurative painting. They focused on the human fragility of the body and flesh, and the utter vulnerability of nudity. Expressing a harrowing vision of humanity, the work of twenty British artists is on display, with painters little-known in France, such as Frank Auerbach and Paula Rego, as well as contemporary artists. With such exceptional and rarely-exhibited works, be prepared to queue. **E. V.**

★★★ “ALL TOO HUMAN. BACON, FREUD AND A CENTURY OF PAINTING LIFE”, Tate Britain, London, +44 (0)20 7887 8888, [www.tate.org.uk](http://www.tate.org.uk)